

# House File 512 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 512

BY KELLEY

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to city emergency warning systems by requiring  
2 that each city establish, operate, and maintain an emergency  
3 warning system, creating a city emergency warning systems  
4 grant fund, and making appropriations.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. NEW SECTION.   **29C.20C City emergency warning**  
2 **systems grant fund.**

3     1. A city emergency warning systems grant fund is created  
4 in the state treasury under the control of the director of the  
5 department of homeland security and emergency management. The  
6 fund shall consist of appropriations made to the fund by the  
7 general assembly and any other moneys available to and obtained  
8 or accepted by the administrator from the federal government or  
9 private sources for deposit in the fund.

10    2. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys remaining in the  
11 city emergency warning systems grant fund at the end of a  
12 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund of the state  
13 but shall remain available for expenditure through the end  
14 of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020. Notwithstanding  
15 section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest or earnings on moneys in  
16 the city emergency warning systems grant fund shall be credited  
17 to the fund.

18    3. A city may apply to the director for a city emergency  
19 warning systems grant to pay all or a portion of the cost to  
20 establish, expand, upgrade, or modernize an emergency warning  
21 system. The director may award a city emergency warning  
22 systems grant to a city if the director determines that the  
23 city is eligible under subsection 4. A city applying for a  
24 grant under this section shall apply on forms and according to  
25 instructions provided by the director.

26    4. The director shall adopt, by rule, standards and a  
27 process for evaluating applications for city emergency warning  
28 systems grants. The director shall give priority to cities  
29 that have not established an emergency warning system prior to  
30 the submission of an application.

31    5. There is appropriated each fiscal year to the department  
32 of homeland security and emergency management for the period  
33 beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2021, moneys in the  
34 fund necessary to award grants under this section.

35    6. This section is repealed effective June 30, 2021. Moneys

1 in the city emergency warning systems grant fund on June 30,  
2 2021, shall be transferred to the rebuild Iowa infrastructure  
3 fund, created in section 8.57, subsection 5.

4 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 364.16A **Emergency warning systems.**

5 Each city shall, by July 1, 2020, establish an emergency  
6 warning system that incorporates, at a minimum, a tornado  
7 siren, and that may include other emergency warning devices,  
8 as deemed appropriate by the city. Upon establishment of an  
9 emergency warning system, a city shall operate and maintain the  
10 system.

11 Sec. 3. **EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEMS APPROPRIATIONS — FY**  
12 **2015-2016 THROUGH FY 2017-2018.** There is appropriated from the  
13 rebuild Iowa infrastructure fund to the city emergency warning  
14 systems grant fund for the following fiscal years the following  
15 amounts, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the  
16 purposes designated, notwithstanding section 8.57, subsection  
17 5, paragraph "c":

18 For deposit in the city emergency warning systems grant fund  
19 created in section 29C.20C:

20 FY 2015-2016.....	\$ 5,000,000
21 FY 2016-2017.....	\$ 5,000,000
22 FY 2017-2018.....	\$ 5,000,000

23 Sec. 4. **CITY EMERGENCY WARNING SYSTEMS NEEDS STUDY AND**  
24 **REPORT.**

25 1. The director of the department of homeland security and  
26 emergency management shall, beginning on July 1, 2018, initiate  
27 and coordinate the establishment of a city emergency warning  
28 system needs study. The study shall focus on the progress  
29 made by Iowa cities in establishing, expanding, upgrading, or  
30 modernizing emergency warning systems and on the remaining  
31 financial needs of cities relating to the establishment of  
32 emergency warning systems.

33 2. The director of the department of homeland security and  
34 emergency management shall prepare a report for delivery to the  
35 general assembly, the chairpersons of the joint appropriations



1 and shall give priority to cities that have not previously  
2 established an emergency warning system. Interest or earnings  
3 on moneys in the city emergency warning systems grant fund  
4 shall be credited to the fund. Moneys remaining in the city  
5 emergency warning systems grant fund at the end of a fiscal  
6 year shall not revert to the general fund until the end of the  
7 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020.

8 The bill further provides for the appropriation of \$5  
9 million from the rebuild Iowa infrastructure fund for deposit  
10 in the city emergency warning systems grant fund each fiscal  
11 year of the period beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30,  
12 2018.

13 New Code section 29C.20C, establishing the grant fund, is  
14 repealed by its own terms effective June 30, 2021. Moneys  
15 remaining in the city emergency warning systems grant fund  
16 on June 30, 2021, shall be transferred to the rebuild Iowa  
17 infrastructure fund, created in Code section 8.57, subsection  
18 5. Pursuant to Code section 8.57, subsection 5, paragraph "i",  
19 the department of homeland security and emergency management  
20 shall be required to report to the department of management and  
21 the legislative services agency on the status of all projects  
22 completed or in progress by January 15 of each fiscal year.

23 The bill requires that the director of the department  
24 of homeland security and emergency management initiate and  
25 coordinate the establishment of a city emergency warning  
26 systems needs study to focus on the progress made by Iowa  
27 cities in establishing, expanding, upgrading, or modernizing  
28 emergency warning systems and on the remaining financial needs  
29 of cities relating to the establishment of emergency warning  
30 systems. The bill further requires the director to prepare a  
31 report on such issues to the general assembly, the chairpersons  
32 of the joint appropriations subcommittee on transportation,  
33 infrastructure, and capitals, and the governor by January 1,  
34 2019.

35 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code

1 section 25B.3. The bill specifies that the \$15 million in  
2 appropriations is deemed to meet the state funding-related  
3 requirements of any state mandate included in the bill. The  
4 specification is deemed to constitute state compliance with  
5 any state mandate funding-related requirements of Code section  
6 25B.2. The inclusion of this specification is intended to  
7 reinstate the requirement of political subdivisions to comply  
8 with any state mandates included in the bill.